

Message Text

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20

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 OMB-01 DRC-01 /147 W

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R 290720Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3199

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

CINCPAC

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

WHITE HOUSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 10459

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CB

SUBJECT: ALLEGED "NATIONALIST" APPROACH TO SIHANOUK

REF: PEKING 1141

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. WE ASSUME THAT THE VANNSAK MENTIONED IN REFTTEL IS KENG VANNSAK WHO IS CURRENTLY KHMER DELEGATE TO UNESCO IN PARIS. FOLLOWING THE OVERTHROW OF SIHANOUK KENG VANNSAK WAS A CLOSE CONFIDANT OF LON NOL WHOSE KHMER-MON RACE-MYTH PHILOSOPHY IS BASED LARGELY UPON VANNSAK'S RESEARCHES AND WRITINGS. IN JULY 1972, HOWEVER, VANNSAK BACAME EMBITTERED AT THE FAILURE OF LON NOL'S SOCIO-REPUBLICAN PARTY TO ADOPT HIS DRAFT PLATFORM AND LEFT FOR PARIS IN A HUFF. VANNSAK IS A BITTER ENEMY OF SOCIO-REPUBLICAN SECRETARY GENERAL HANG THUN HAK WHOM
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HE HAS ACCUSED OF BEING UNDER SOVIET INFLUENCE AND

FAVORABLE TO A NEUTRALIST OR THIRD FORCE SOLUTION TO CAMBODIAN PROBLEMS. VANNSAK HIMSELF, ALTHOUGH AT ONE TIME A LEFTIST, HAS MOST RECENTLY BEEN AN OUTSPOKEN ADVOCATE OF CLOSER TIES WITH THE WEST. ALTHOUGH HE JOINED THE SANGKUM IN 1958 KENG VANNSAK WAS NEVER CLOSE TO SIHANOUK.

2. KOCH SAN IS A FORMER CUSTOMS OFFICIAL WHO SERVED AS DIRECTOR OF CABINET AT THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE UNDER SIRIK MATAK AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE (REPLACING MG KANG KENG) IN THE SON NGOC THANH CABINET FROM JULY TO OCTOBER 1972. LATER HE SERVED IN LON NOL'S EXECUTIVE OFFICE AND MOST RECENTLY WAS AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO ZAIRE BEFORE THE JOB DISAPPEARED WHEN ZAIRE RECOGNIZED GRUNK EARLY THIS MONTH. HE IS NOT A PARTICULARLY WELL-KNOWN OR RESPECTED POLITICAL FIGURES.
ENDERS

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Message Attributes

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